

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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## DEQ to conduct watershed inspections in Bayou Bonfuca, Salt Bayou and the W-14 Canal

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BATON ROUGE – Improper wastewater discharge is one of the leading causes of pollution to waterways in Louisiana and throughout the nation. LDEQ started a watershed based inspection project today in the Bayou Bonfuca, Salt Bayou and W-14 Canal watersheds. Inspectors from LDEQ will go door-to-door to inspect all discharge sources in the area to verify permit status and compliance with water quality regulations.

The goal of the watershed based inspection project is not to find violators for enforcement actions and penalties, but to keep track of dischargers. In order to protect the state's watersheds, the first step is to assist those who do not hold the proper permits or are out of compliance with environmental regulations.

As an educational resource for both business owners and the general public, DEQ will offer a Compliance Assistance Workshop at the Slidell Auditorium, 2056 Second Street in Slidell from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on November 18 and December 9, 2009. The workshop is open to the public.